HIS ONE REQUEST.

Sweet one, when I propose to you.

As some day I will manage to,

O, answer not, as young girls do:

"Til be a sister to you."

I probably will kneel and sigh: "Be mine, oh angel, or I die." In which case, ah, do not reply: Your cold diadain I would not fear.

Til be a states to you. Refuse me for my dearth of gold. For that I am too young too old. Too stout, too thin; but oh, withho

"I'll be a sister to you Of real sisters I've a score. And I expect a number more,
For half a score have said before

"I'll be a sister to you."

—Harry B. Smith, in America.

FORTUNATE FINDERS.

Remarkable Discoveries of Lost Valuables.

Money Packages Tout Had Reen Trampled in the Mud - Two Ring Stories-Strange Iracoveries of Missing Diamonds and Valuable Man. oseripts.

The paymaster of a large railroad company, having its headquarters in Boston, went out on one occasion with \$30,000 to pay off its employes. The money was carried under his arm wrapped up in an old newspaper. He stopped at a little wayside cating house fit of absent-mindedness, left the money lying on a chair. He had not gone and with trembling voice asked the woman in charge if she had seen the parcel. "There's a bit of paper in the chair beyant," said she; "perhaps that's it," which it proved to be, and the gentleman returned a happier and wiser man.

roll of bills amounting to \$10,000, which also was wrapped up in a newspaper. He told a friend of his loss, and the friend made him describe all the ground he had been over since he had the money. The last place mentioned was the post-office. The night was wet over head and slushy under foot. They visited the post-office and, going to the spot where the man had bee standing. they found two or three bits of newspaper. It was the same. They looked further, and at last found the lost treasure. It had been kicked in turn by every one who came into the office, and when found was untied and completely soaked with water. It was all there. however, and the friends returned to their hotel and spent several hours in cleaning and drying it. The gentleman was so grateful for the sensible advice which had saved him from serious loss that he took out his friend and bought him the handsomest gold watch chain that he could find in the city.

A still more remarkable incident is related of the finding of \$130,000 lost by M. Pages in the Northern railway station in Paris some ten years ago. As one Ezelot, a French soldier, was walking with two comrades through the station they noticed on the floor a was getting into the train, going home on short leave, one of his comrades, picking up the package, thrust it into the canvas forage bag slung at his side, Ezelot going on his way without having perceived the little pleasantry. Arriving at Neuilly. where his parents lived. Ezelot's mother, emptying the forage bag, discovered the bundle, but thinking it a roll of old newspapers put it on a table in the kitchen. There it remained four or five days, till a married sister, calling in and seeing the package, was moved by an unwonted curiosity. Opening it she discovered documents representing the £26,000, the loss of which M. Pages had advertised throughout Europe. The soldier and his parents, however, had not seen the advertisement, and not knowing what else to do, had recourse to the marei. That functionary communicating with Paris speedily brought down M. Pages, who, gladly paying the promised reward of £1,000. went off with his oddly recovered treasure. It would be an interesting supplement to the narrative if we could have a record of the feelings of the soldier who thrust this unexpected good fortune upon Ezelot when he heard the sequel to his little joke.

Among singular recoveries of lost valuables, says a writer in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, one of the oddest occurred in Providence, R. I., some years ago. One day a gentleman in one of the largest stores of the city tried on a pair of fleece-lined gloves which did not suit him, so he bought another pair. A few days after he missed a gold ring from the third finger of the left hand, but had no idea how long it had been gone. He searched the house and went into the store where he had purchased the gloves and other places to see if any thing had been seen of it, but in vain. Months rolled on, until another winter came, and the gentleman once more visited the clothing store in search of In taking off the left-hand glove he found a ring in one of the fingers. While slowly disentangling it from the fleecy lining he said to the salesman: mine, as I have found it, or yours. be-

mind and he said: "Who knows but was drawn out, and, indeed, it was the bats. same, with the owner's initials en-

vious season on the spot. A still more wonderful ring story is tleman was walking along the shore of Hastings when he discoved that a valuable ring which he wore had slipped off. Although a diligent search was made, no trace of it could be found. A year afterward-indeed it is even said on the very anniversary—the gentleman again visited the spot, and while strolling along the shore a fisherman near him stooped down, picked up Ofen, in 1526, a common soldier saw something, and ran after him, saying: "Did you drop this?" at the same time holding up the identical ring lost twelve months before. Some of the most curious losses and

recoveries of which we have any record

are related in regard to famous jewels. Among these the De Sancy diamond ma be mentioned as possessing a particularly singular history. The first known owner of this gem was Charles the Bold. Duke of Burgundy, who is said to have worn it in his helmet. It for dinner, and on going away, in a was lost in the battle in which its owner was killed, but was picked up by a Swiss soldier, who sold it to a priest many miles from the place before he for a florin. The priest, as ignorant missed it and his dismay on discoving as the soldier of its rare value, imits loss can well be imagined. Almost agined that he had made a good bardespairing of recoving the package left gain when he sold it to the King of in so public a place, he harried back, Portugal for a a florin and a half. The profit of the King, however, was somewhat larger than that of the unworldly priest, for he received no less than 100,000 crowns for it from the wealthy Harley de Sancy, in whose family it remained for several generations. Finally one of his descendants, wishing Another man in the same city lost a to pawn it in order to lend Henri III. some money, sent it to a Jew broker by the hand of a servant in whom he had the utmost confidence. The servant never returned, and the broker declared that the man had never made his appearance with the diamond. In spite of this assertion the confidence of De Sancy in the honesty of his old servant was unshaken. This confidence, as it afterward appeared, was not misplaced, for after a time the body of a murdered man was discovered near the city walls in a deep ditch, which was recognized as that of the missing servant. An attempt at robbery had evidently been made, and the faith ful fellow had remained true to his master's interests to his last moments for on the surgeons examining the body the diamond was found in his stomach. he having swallowed it as the only means left to him of outwitting his assailants. This diamond remained in the possession of the family for several more generations, but was at last sold to James IIL of England, who presented it to Louis XIV. It remained among the crown jewels of France for some time, but was finally purchased

> An interesting anecdote is related in the life of Lord John Lawrence in rerence he stuffed it into his waistquat pocket and went on with business Dinner time arriving, he changed his clothes and threw his waistcoat aside. Six weeks later a message came that the Queen desired the diamond to be sent home at once. The matter had entirely escaped the memory of the absentminded lord, and he at first avowed that he had forwarded it long before When the facts came back to him he was badly frightened, but allowed no misgivings to appear, and took the first opportunity to slip away to his private room. Once there, with his heart in his mouth, he sent for his native servant and said to him: "Have you got a small box which was in my waistcoat pocket some time ago?" "Yes, sahib," the man replied. "I found it and put it in one of your boxes." "Bring it here," said the sahib. Upon this the old servant went to a broken-down tin box and produced the little one from it. "Open it." said Lord Lawrence, "and see what is inside." He watched the man anxiously as fold after fold of cloth was taken off, and great was his relief when the brilliant gem appeared. The servant seemed perfectly

unconscious of the immense treasure

he had had in his keeping. "There is

nothing here, sahib," he said, "but a bit of glass." Thus, through the in-

by the Russian banker. Demidorff.

difference of a native servant, what might have been a serious loss was turned into a happy recovery. In an interesting article on the romance of literary discovery a writer in an English periodical names a number of notable book recoveries in ancient times. Among these is Homer's "Odyssey," 800 lines of which were found grasped in the hands of a mummy at Monfalot; one of Cicero's most interesting treatises, which was found amid a heap of refuse near Milan, by a bishop of Lodi early in the fifteenth century, and the well known instance of the recovery of the original manuscript of Magna Charta from the hands fleece-lined gloves. The first pair he of a tailor who was cutting it up for tried on he found too short at the wrists. patterns. An equally singular recovery was that of a small portion of what was supposed to be one of the lost books of Livy. The tutor of a French noblemen in the fifteenth century was "Here is a ring. Whose shall it be- playing tennis when he chanced to notice that his racquet but was made of pa was milkin.'-Toledo Blade.

suddenly his lost ring came into his piece of historical Latin prose, in very much the style of Livy. He instantly this is the very ring I lost a year hurried to the racquet-maker; but in ago?" The answer was: "That can vain. The man could only tell him not be, as I do not think we have a that he had fallen in with a mass of pair of gloves on hand that we had last parchment and that it had long since year at this time. Slowly the ring been used up in the making of racquet

More fortunate than the tutor was graved upon it. The wonder was that scholar named Musso, who chanced the gloves had not been sent to some one afternoon to enter a bookbinder' smaller store in the country, as was a shop in Paris. Noticing that the man frequent practice if not sold the pre- was about to cut up a mass of manuscript, he begged leave to examine it To his surprise he found that he had told in an Euglish periodical. A gen- bit upon the works of Agobard, a learned prelate of the ninth century. Seeing its value Musso purchased the manuscript, and thus preserved a rolume which contained many valuable letails of those early days.

The recovery of the "Ethiopica" of Heliodorus, a Christian bishop of the fourth century, is cited as little short of miraculous. During the sack of a manuscript lying in the streets. begrimed with dirt and trampled under foot by his comrades, who were intent on plundering the houses. Noticing that it was richly bound he picked it up and conveyed it to Germany, where it was shortly after printed and became one of the most popular romances of the times.

Still more remarkable was the discovery of Martin Luther's 'Table Talk." In the year 1896 a Cormon In the year 1826 a German gentleman named Carbarus Von Sparr was engaged in building a new house. In the course of their excavations the workmen came upon a small square package wrapped in strong linen cloth which had been carefully plastered all over with beeswax. On opening and examining the parcel a volume was discovered. This volume was Luther's work, the only copy in existence. It had evidently been buried by Von Sparr's grandfather to escape the penalty of an edict issued by Rudolph II., at the instigation of Pope Gregory XIII., making it death for any one to possess the work. The loss of this book would have been a great misfortune, for without it we never should have understood the character of the great reformer-never have known what he was when surrounded by his family and his friends.

BELLS OF BETHLEHEM.

The Prettiest Women to Be Found Around

There is a market inside the Jaffa gate, and I can see it just under me as write. Great piles of oranges and emons lie upon the flag sidewalk, and there are scores of women with baskets of vegetables before them. Many of these are from Bethlehem. and Bethlehem girls are the prettiest you see in Jerusalem. They have straight, well-rounded forms, which they clothe in a long linen dress of white, beautifully embroidered in silk, so that a single gown requires many months of work. This dress is much like an American woman's night gown without the frills and laces. It falls from the neck to the feet and is open at the front of the neck in a narrow slit as far down as a modest decollete fashionable dress. Over this they have sleeveless cloaks of dark red stripes and their heads are covered with long shawls of linen beautifully embroidwhich stand on end fastened to a string, and crown the forehead with money. Some of the girls have several rows of these coins and some have crowns of gold. Not a few have coins of silver and gold the size of our \$20 gold pieces hung to strings about their necks, and none of the women hide their pretty faces, as do those Mohammedan girls near by, who, in shapeless white gowns with flowery white and red veils covering the whole of their faces, look like girls playing ghosts in white sheets. Beside these are Russian girls in the peasant costumes of modern Europe and Jewish maidens in gowns and flowered shawls. There are Greek priests, with high, black caps, and monks of all kinds, such as you see under the black cowls of Europe. The Syrian, the Turk, the Bedouin, the African, the Armenian and the Greek, are all in that crowd below me, and among them all is the form of the ubiquitous American traveler, who, in pith helmet hat and green sun umbrella, has conquered the East as well as the West.-F. G. Carpenter's Jerusalem Letter in St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Johnny on the Wasp.

A wasp is a six-legged bird that lives mostly in trees and under the eaves of barnes, and you can not taim him; he is too busy. Never stroke his fur the wrong way, because it makes him mad, and when a wasp is mad I don't want nothin to do with him. He has what they call "a stinger," and when he goes out a stingering, boys must keep away from him. I leaned up agin one once when he was busy, and I jumped much as a feet; ma had to put a mud pie on the place. I hit a wasp's nest with a stone once, and the boss wasp chased me clean acrost the lot so fast that when I got over the fence I tore my pants; then pa spanked me till I wished I had let the old wasp sting me. Some say wasps make honey, but if their honey is as hot as their stingerin' I don't want none. Pa says the stingerin' ain't so bad at first as the rekolekshuns of it for a few days. He ought to know, cos me and my brother Ike got on the roof and poked a big nest from the peek down in the barnyard while

cause it is found in your department?" The weighty question was decided in the gentleman's favor, when deciphering it, and found that it was a hind them.—Boston Courier.

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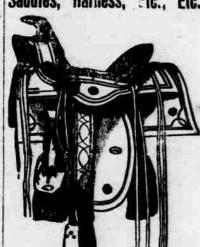
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